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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/741,684	12/18/2000	Xm Wong	2855/29	6553

7590 07/14/2003

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EXAMINER

MILLER, BRIAN E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2652

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2003

17

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/741,684

Applicant(s)

WONG ET AL.

Examiner

Brian E. Miller

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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Claims 1-12 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/30/03 has been entered.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. Claims 1-5, 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Albrecht et al (US 5,821,494). Albrecht et al discloses a "disk drive" (see FIG. 1), which includes a bonding pad on a magnetic head terminal 62 (FIG. 12B-12C) which includes a bonding substance 60 which is a conductive adhesive solder film polymer (see col. 11, lines 16-25), applied as a surface finishing material, which material is heat treated "prior to bonding to a surface" (see col. 10, lines 50-53).

4. Claims 1-5, 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ainslie et al (US 4,761,699). As shown in FIGs. 4 & 5, a slider 16 is bonded to a suspension 40; each of which have bonding pads 41, 74, 60, 63 to facilitate proper electrical connection therebetween.

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The bonding substance includes solder 80, 84 and a conductive adhesion film 74, 76, applied as a surface finishing material, which material is heat treated "prior to bonding to a surface" (see col. 7, lines 15-16).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. Claims 6, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Albrecht et al or Ainslie et al.

Albrecht et al or Ainslie et al are silent as to the dimensions, i.e., height and diameter, of the solder bump, however, Albrecht does teach the slider pads to be no larger than 120 um (see col. 11, lines 19-20) which size slider pad would presumably encompass a solder bump having a diameter equal to or approximate to that dimension. Taking this and the knowledge of a skilled artisan into consideration, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided solder bumps within the claimed dimensions to the respective teachings of Albrecht et al or Ainslie et al. The motivation would have been: lacking any unobvious or unexpected results, the particular solder bump height and diameter would have been provided through routine experimentation and optimization so as to optimize the electrical connection with minimal height usage, which would have been realized by a skilled artisan.

Response to Amendment

6. Applicant's arguments filed 6/30/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant asserts that the prior art of record (Albrecht nor Ainslie) does not disclose

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“a surface finishing material being heat treated prior to bonding to a surface, as set forth in claims 1 & 7.”


The Examiner maintains that both prior art references includes the above limitation, as set forth, supra. It is noted that this newly added limitation is a process limitation anyway, and does not add significantly (if at all) any patentable subject matter, since the claim(s) are directed to the product.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian E. Miller whose telephone number is (703) 308-2850. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:45am-5:15pm (FF off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T. Nguyen can be reached on (703) 305-9687. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.


Brian E. Miller
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2652

bem
July 11, 2003